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Behavioral Health Administration  
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## Memorandum

To: Maryland Licensed Nursing Facilities

From: Stefani O'Dea, Director Office of Older Adults and Long-Term Services and Supports, Maryland Behavioral Health Administration (BHA)

Date: Updated August 21, 2020

Subject: Maryland Pre-Admission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR) program for Marylanders with serious mental illness.

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In Maryland, the Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) is responsible for reviewing any request for nursing facility admission for Marylanders who have a serious mental illness. This PASRR review and approval process is currently completed through BHA's Administrative Services Organization contractor, Optum Maryland. Regulations governing PASRR are found in the Code of Federal Regulations, primarily at [42 CFR 483.100-138](#).

When a nursing facility is deemed the appropriate level of care for an individual with a serious mental illness, that individual may need specialized behavioral health services while in the facility. Individuals may also require assistance with linking with behavioral health services when they are ready to return to the community.

Utilizing Money Follows the Person Rebalancing funds, BHA created a project called the Older Adult Behavioral Health PASRR Project. Six regional specialists are employed by local core service agencies to cover the state of Maryland. These specialists are a resource to behavioral health providers whose clients are aging and experiencing behavioral health issues.

Specialists also conduct follow ups for individuals with serious mental illness who have been admitted to Maryland nursing facilities through the PASRR Program. Nursing facilities should consider the Specialists a resource provided by BHA to help nursing facilities meet the behavioral health needs of residents. The Specialists can assist with identifying specialized behavioral health services that the individual may need in the nursing facility, providing training and technical assistance on PASRR, and help to identify community behavioral health resources for individuals who return to the community. Below please find a list of the regional project contacts.

### Regional and Project Contacts

Region	Contact Person/ Agency
<i>Eastern Region</i> Worcester, Wicomico, Somerset, Dorchester, Talbot, Caroline, Queen Anne's, Kent	Mid- Shore Behavioral Health Inc Katrina Ositelu Office: 410-770-4801, ext. 322 Email: kositelu@midshorebehavioralhealth.org
<i>Western Region</i> Garrett, Allegany, Washington, Frederick	Washington County Mental Health Authority Linda Cole, LCSW-C Office: 301-739-2490 X 111 Email: Lindac@wcmha.org
<i>Central Region</i> Cecil, Harford, Baltimore, Carroll, and Howard	Anne Arundel County Mental Health Authority Heather Hughes, LMSW 410-980-8315 (cell) 410-768-5522 Ext: 187 hhughes@aamentalhealth.org
<i>Southern Region</i> Anne Arundel, Prince George's, Calvert, Charles, and Saint Mary's.	Anne Arundel County Mental Health Authority Mia Riggsby, LMSW 410-897-7042 mriggsby@aamentalhealth.org
<i>Baltimore City</i>	Behavioral Health Systems Baltimore Kola Bakre Office: 410.735.8540 Email: Kola.bakre@bhsbaltimore.org
<i>Montgomery County</i>	Montgomery County Local Behavioral Health Authority Sybil Greenhut, APRN-BC Phone: 240 777-3962 email: Sybil.greenhut@montgomerycountymd.gov
<i>Behavioral Health Administration Program contact</i>	Stefani O'Dea, MA Director Office of Older Adults and Long-Term Services and Supports, BHA 410-402-8476 Stefani.odea@maryland.gov
<i>Optum Maryland PASRR contact Information</i>	Primary Contact: Karen Gauvin, BSN, R.N. Office: 443-896-0635 Email: karen.gauvin@optum.com  Phone 800-888-1965 Option 3 Fax 844-887-9875 Email: PASRRmd@optum.com Attention: PASRR

More information about the Federal PASRR requirements can be found at <https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/ltss/institutional/pasrr/index.html>. Thank you.